

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9587

To establish the Fort Ontario National Monument in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Ms. TENNEY (for herself and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Fort Ontario National Monument in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fort Ontario National
5 Monument Establishment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) MAP.—The term “Map” means Map 4 on
9 page 86 (as corrected by errata to match Map 7 on

1 page 110) of the Fort Ontario Special Resource
2 Study, dated 2024.

3 (2) NATIONAL MONUMENT.—The term “Na-
4 tional Monument” means the Fort Ontario National
5 Monument established by section 3(a)(1).

6 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
7 the Secretary of the Interior.

8 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
9 of New York.

10 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT ONTARIO NATIONAL**
11 **MONUMENT.**

12 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3),
14 there is established in the State as a unit of the Na-
15 tional Park System the Fort Ontario National
16 Monument.

17 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the National
18 Monument is to preserve, protect, and interpret for
19 the benefit of present and future generations re-
20 sources associated with memorializing the stories of
21 the 982 refugees from World War II who were
22 housed at Fort Ontario from August of 1944 until
23 February of 1946.

24 (3) CONDITIONS OF ESTABLISHMENT.—

1 (A) DETERMINATION BY THE SEC-
2 RETARY.—The National Monument shall not be
3 established until the date on which the Sec-
4 retary determines that a sufficient quantity of
5 land or interests in land has been acquired to
6 constitute a manageable park unit.

7 (B) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days
8 after the date on which the Secretary makes a
9 determination under subparagraph (A), the
10 Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register
11 notice of the establishment of the National
12 Monument.

13 (4) BOUNDARY.—The boundary of the National
14 Monument shall be as generally depicted as the
15 “Proposed Boundary” on the Map, including Build-
16 ings 22, 23, 30, and 31.

17 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall admin-
19 ister the National Monument in accordance with—

20 (A) this section; and

21 (B) the laws generally applicable to units
22 of the National Park System, including—

23 (i) section 100101(a), chapter 1003,
24 and sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753,

1 and 102101 of title 54, United States
2 Code; and

3 (ii) chapter 3201 of title 54, United
4 States Code.

5 (2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
7 enter into cooperative agreements with the
8 State or other public and private entities—

9 (i) to provide interpretive and edu-
10 cational services within the National
11 Monument; and

12 (ii) to identify, interpret, and provide
13 assistance for the maintenance of—

14 (I) non-Federal land within the
15 boundary of the National Monument;
16 and

17 (II) sites in close proximity to
18 the National Monument that are lo-
19 cated outside the boundary of the Na-
20 tional Monument.

21 (B) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Any cooperative
22 agreement entered into under subparagraph (A)
23 to provide assistance to non-Federal land shall
24 provide for reasonable public access to the non-
25 Federal land.

1 (3) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
3 graph (B), the Secretary may acquire land and
4 interests in land located within the boundary of
5 the National Monument by—

6 (i) donation;

7 (ii) purchase with donated or appro-
8 priated funds; or

9 (iii) exchange.

10 (B) LIMITATION.—Any land owned by the
11 State or a political subdivision of the State may
12 be acquired for inclusion in the National Monu-
13 ment only by donation.

14 (4) TECHNICAL AND ASSISTANCE.—The Sec-
15 retary may provide public interpretation and tech-
16 nical assistance relating to the National Monument
17 within the boundaries of the National Monument.

18 (5) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3
19 years after the date on which funds are first made
20 available to carry out this section, the Secretary, in
21 consultation with the State, shall complete a general
22 management plan for the National Monument in ac-
23 cordance with—

24 (A) section 100502 of title 54, United
25 States Code; and

1 (B) any other applicable laws.

2 (6) ACCESS TO CERTAIN ATHLETIC FACILI-
3 TIES.—The establishment of the National Monument
4 shall not affect the use of, or public access to, any
5 athletic facilities within the boundary of the Na-
6 tional Monument with respect to which the use or
7 public access is authorized as of the date of enact-
8 ment of this Act.

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